Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images with mixed screen patterns, comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

halftoning ~~an image~~ an original contone image, resulting in a halftone image with a plurality of halftone portions; and

adjusting boundary regions located between halftone portions of the halftone image ~~of said image~~ to minimize a brightness deviation between the boundary regions and the original contone image. ~~of from an .~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1 for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images, wherein adjusting boundary regions ~~a boundary region~~ further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

performing a low-pass filtering of ~~in~~ halftones in ~~said~~ the boundary regions, a boundary region having a width that is ~~which have~~ one or more ~~than one~~ pixels wide. ~~along a boundary.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein low-pass filtering further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

choosing a cutoff frequency for ~~said~~ the low-pass filtering.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein low-pass filtering further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

choosing a cutoff frequency for ~~said~~ the low-pass filtering that is substantially the halftone frequency. ~~to be around halftone frequency~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein adjusting boundary regions ~~adjustment~~ further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image ~~said filtering result to said original contone image~~ and generating an error map.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein adjusting boundary regions ~~adjustment~~ further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image to generate an error map that includes an error at a pixel (m,n). ~~said filtering result to said original contone image and at pixel (m,n) generating an error map.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 6 ~~Claim 5~~ for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, further comprising:

adjusting pixels in the ~~said pixels in said~~ boundary regions to reduce a magnitude of ~~errors~~ errors stored in the error map that correspond to the pixels.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 6 ~~Claim 3~~ for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, further comprising:

adjusting sequentially the pixels in the ~~said pixels in said~~ boundary regions to reduce a magnitude of the errors stored in the error map that correspond to the pixels.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 6 ~~Claim 3~~ for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, further comprising:

adjusting ~~said~~ the pixels in the boundary regions by first adjusting pixels with errors larger than the errors associated with other pixels in the boundary regions ~~by staring~~

~~from pixels with larger errors to ones with smaller errors in said boundary regions~~ to reduce a magnitude of the errors stored in the error map that correspond to the pixels with larger errors. ~~magnitude of the errors.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images with mixed screen patterns, comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

halftoning ~~an image~~ an original contone image, resulting in a halftone image with a plurality of halftone portions;

adjusting ~~a boundary region~~ boundary regions located between halftone portions of the halftone image ~~of said image~~ to minimize a brightness deviation between the boundary regions and the original contone image; ~~of said halftone from an original contone;~~ and

performing a low-pass filtering ~~in~~ of halftones in the boundary regions, a boundary region having a width that is one or more pixels wide. ~~which have one or more than one pixels wide along a boundary.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 10 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein low-pass filtering further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

choosing a cutoff frequency for ~~said~~ the low-pass filtering.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 10 ~~Claim 11~~ for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein low-pass filtering further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

choosing a cutoff frequency for ~~said~~ the low-pass filtering that is substantially the halftone frequency. ~~to be around halftone frequency~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 10 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein adjusting boundary regions ~~adjustment~~ further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image ~~said filtering result to said original contone image~~ and generating an error map.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 10 for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, wherein adjusting boundary regions ~~adjustment~~ further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image to generate an error map that includes an error at a pixel (m,n). ~~said filtering result to said original contone image and at pixel (m,n) generating an error map.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 14 ~~Claim 12~~ for reducing boundary effects ~~for~~ in images, further comprising:

adjusting pixels in the ~~said pixels in said~~ boundary regions to reduce a magnitude of errors stored in the error map that correspond to the pixels.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images with mixed screen patterns, comprising~~: the steps of:~~

means for halftoning ~~an image~~ an original contone image, resulting in a halftone image with a plurality of halftone portions;

means for adjusting a boundary region located between the halftone portions of the halftone image ~~of said image~~ to minimize a brightness deviation between the boundary regions and the original contone image; ~~of said halftone from an original contone;~~

means for performing a low-pass filtering ~~in~~ of halftones in ~~said~~ the boundary regions, a boundary region having a width that is one or more pixels wide; ~~which have one or more than one pixels wide along a boundary;~~ and

means for choosing a cutoff frequency for the low-pass filtering.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 16 for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images, wherein low-pass filtering further comprises~~: the steps of:~~

means for choosing a cutoff frequency for ~~said~~ the low-pass filtering that is substantially the halftone frequency. ~~to be around halftone frequency~~

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 16 for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images, wherein adjustment further comprises~~: the steps of:~~

means for comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image ~~said filtering result to said original contone image~~ and generating an error map.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 16 for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images, wherein adjustment further comprises: ~~the steps of:~~

means for comparing a filtered portion of the halftone image to a corresponding portion of the original contone image and generating an error map that includes an error at a pixel (m,n). ~~said filtering result to said original contone image and at pixel (m,n) generating an error map.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 19 ~~Claim 16~~ for reducing boundary effects in ~~for~~ images, further comprising:

means for adjusting pixels in the boundary regions ~~said pixels in said boundary regions~~ to reduce a magnitude of errors stored in the error map that correspond to the pixels.